



PASTORAL TIMES

EDITION XVII

JUNIOR

**PASTORAL
POINTERS!**

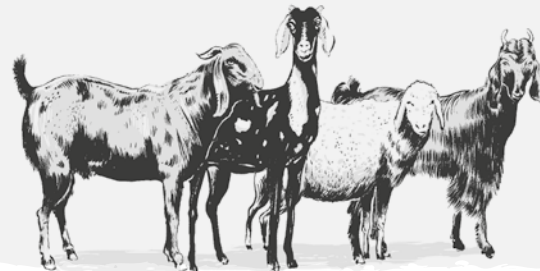
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**HOME ON
THE MOVE!**

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FAIR TALE**

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The Drokpas of Tibet

By Ritayan Mukherjee

A photographer from Kolkata, India. He has been featured in many notable magazines and has won awards for his work!



Drokpas are a pastoral community who have lived in Tibet for many centuries.

They live above 14,000 feet and move across Tibet's mountains according to the season!



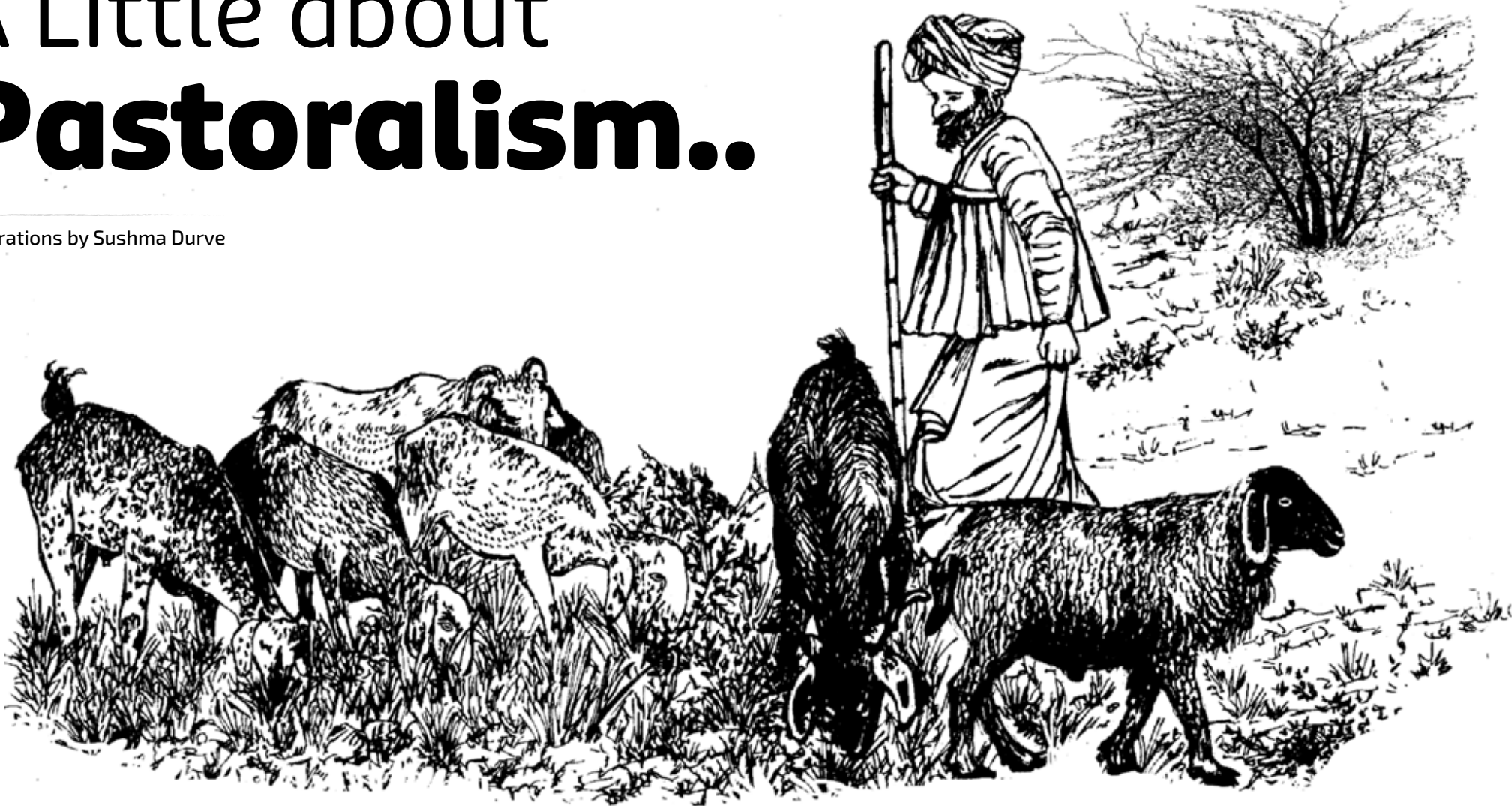
They carry their homes made of yak wool, on their yaks across mountains, which can be challenging.



Still, many Drokpas herd their animals to preserve their unique culture and way of life!

A Little about Pastoralism..

Illustrations by Sushma Durve



Around the world, some communities care for animals like cows, buffaloes, goats, sheep, camels, ducks, and pigs. They move with their animals from place to place during different seasons.

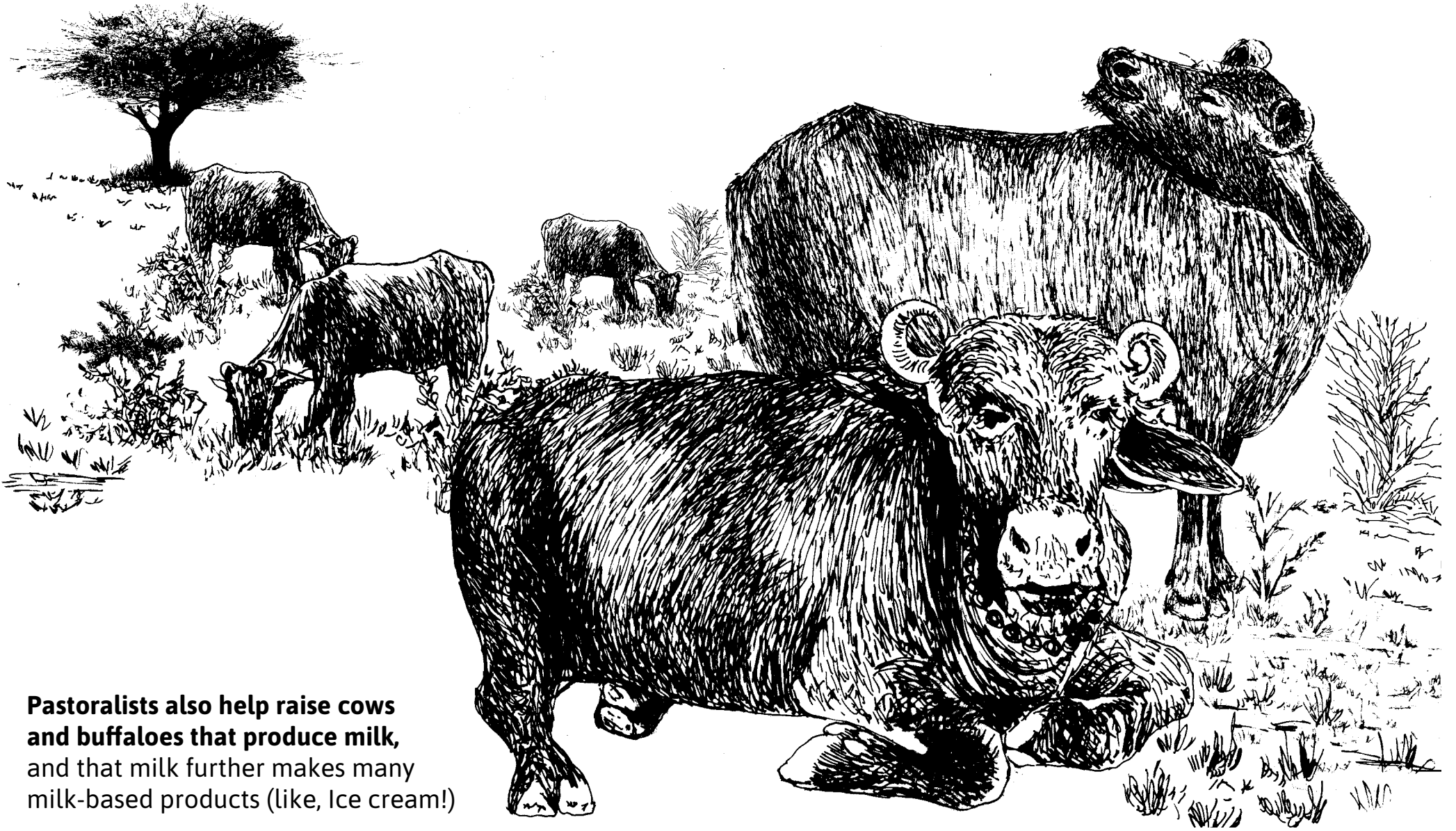
This way of life is called pastoralism, and those doing it are called pastoralists!

In India, **pastoralists often work closely with farmers.** Farmers let pastoral animals eat leftovers from their crops in fields, and even rest in empty fields.



As seasons change, pastoralists move their animals to different places to find fresh grass to eat!

Pastoralists have been grazing animals for thousands of years, and they help keep the land healthy. **They know how to keep grazing balanced - not doing too much or too little!**



Pastoralists also help raise cows and buffaloes that produce milk, and that milk further makes many milk-based products (like, Ice cream!)

But, pastoralism also faces some challenges. People often think pastoralists just wander around with their animals, but pastoralists are very skilled people.



They breed strong animals, plan their movements across so many different kinds of lands, and know so much about plants and weather. **Being a pastoralist means being like a farmer, scientist, and vet all at once!**

Sheeps are on the Go:

Let's Count Them as They Climb the Mountains!

DID YOU KNOW?

India has a sheep population of almost 75 million - the third largest in the world! That's not all - over 95% of these sheep are managed by pastoralists!

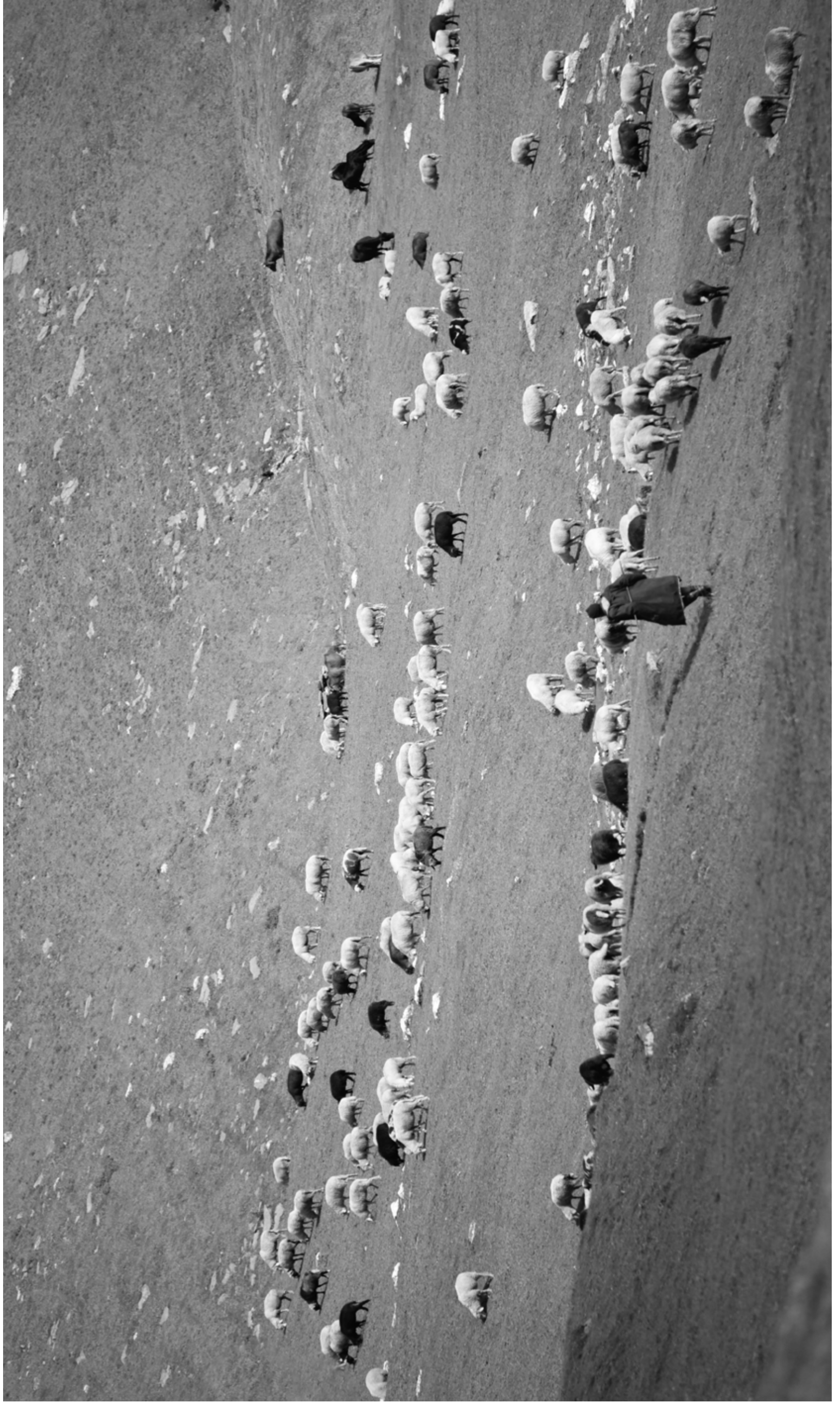


Photo by Hashmat Singh

HOME ON THE MOVE ! HO

ME ON THE MOVE ! HOME ON THE MOVE

Did you know? 🐪

Some pastoralists **carry their homes**

as they move from place to place on a pack animal.

They can have everything they need

and set up new homes at various locations

along their **migration routes!**

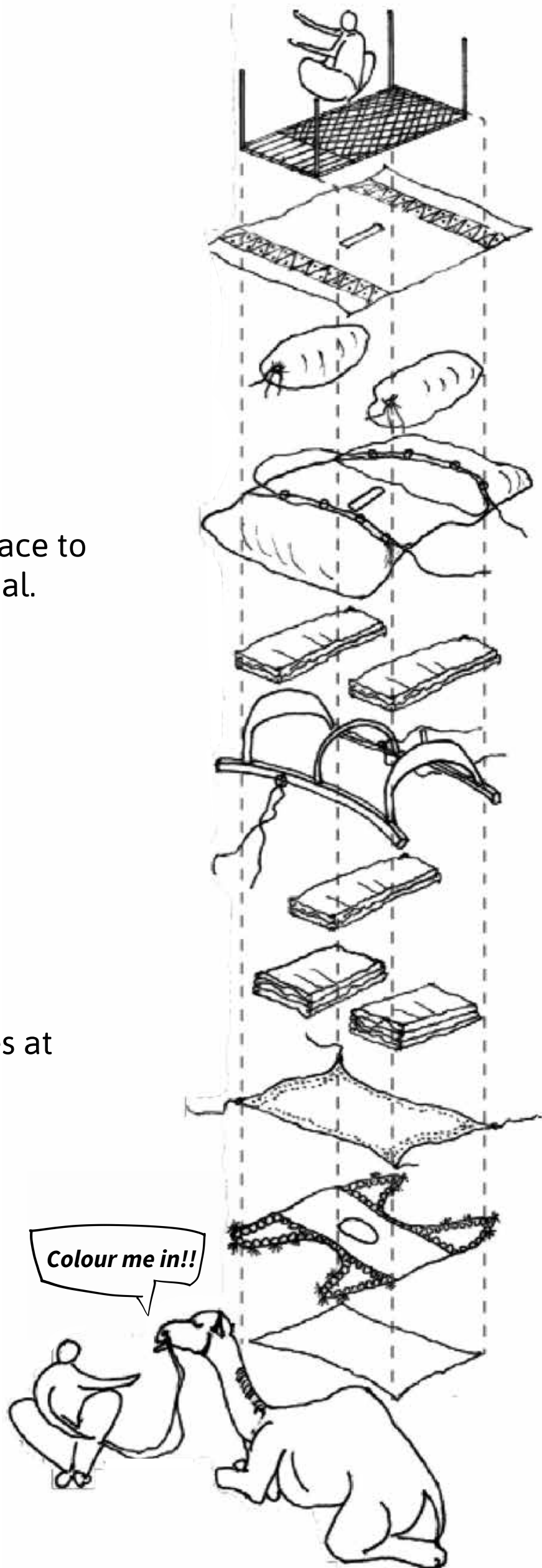


Illustration by Sagar Vadher

VE ! HOME ON THE MOVE !

Chola, Topa, Dora

By Sarita Sundar
Illustrations by Somesh Kumar

This story first appeared in the book *World Without A Roof*, published by *Sahjeevan* in 2017. If you'd like to grab a copy, email us at communications@centreforpastoralism.org!

One afternoon, in a village in Himachal Pradesh, Gagan is walking home from school with his friend..



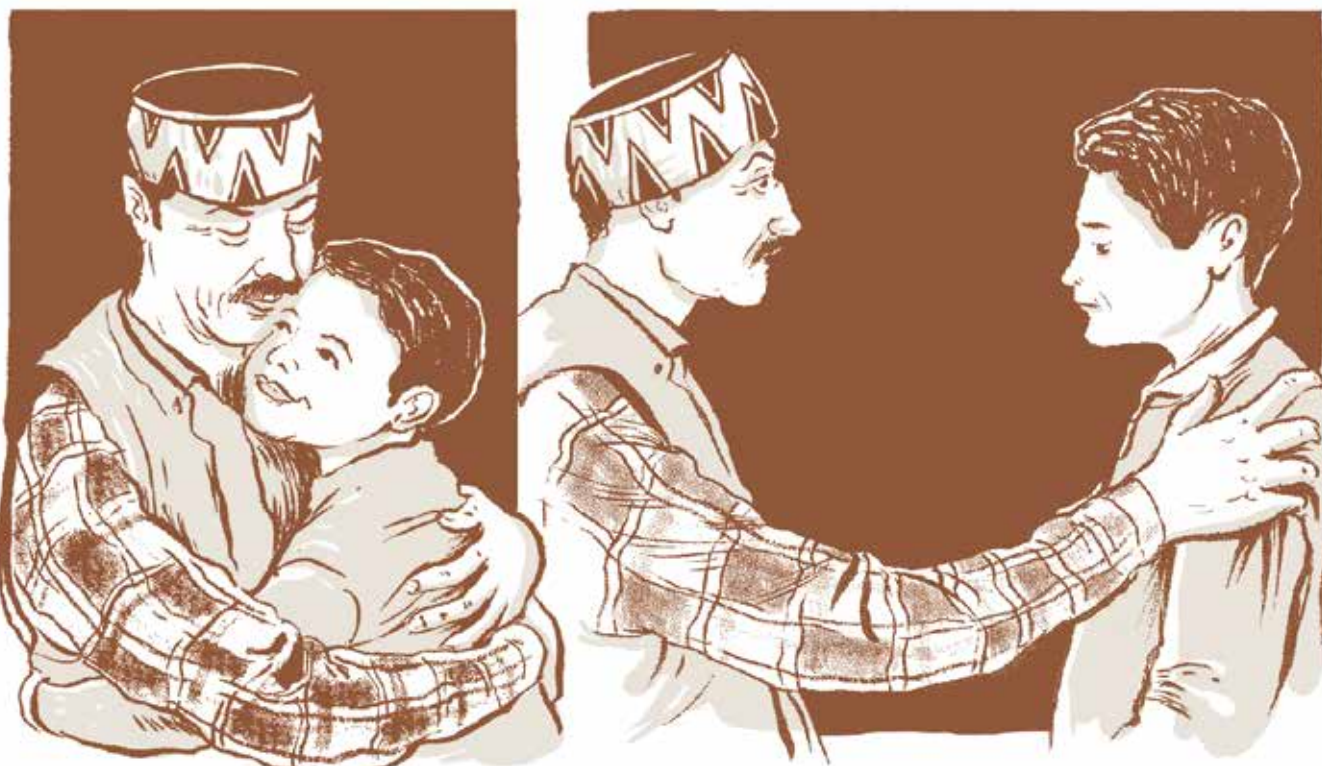
Gagan is part of the Gaddi pastoralist community, living in the rugged middle Himalayas—it is quite hard to live there!



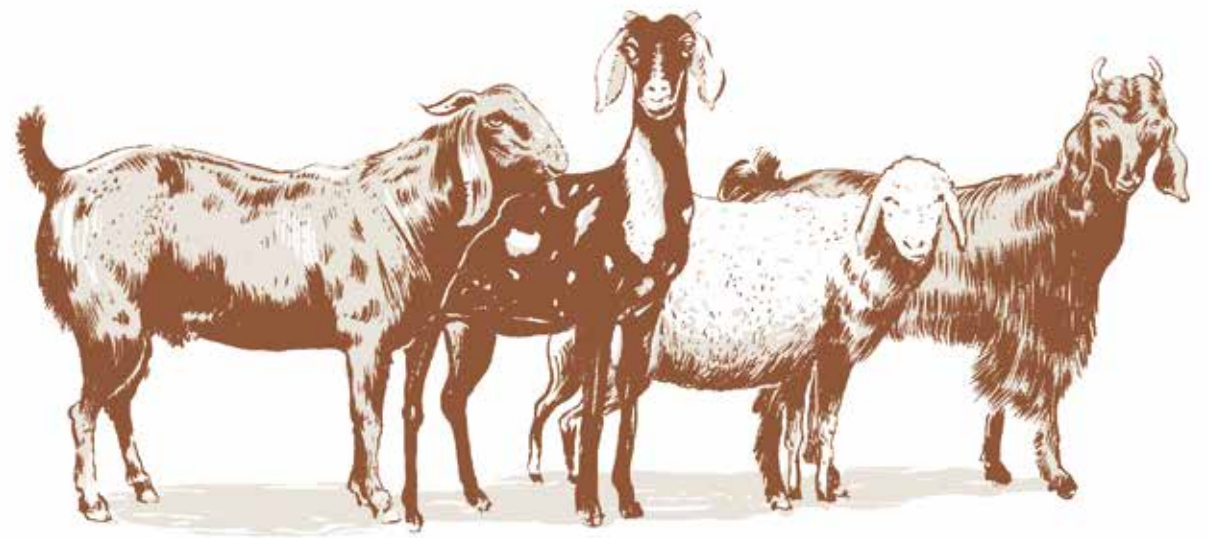
Gagan reaches the courtyard, which was empty this morning. Now it's filled with the bleating of goats and sheep!



Gagan rushed inside to hug Papa and told him he wanted to join him on his next trip!



Papa frowned and said, "Is this why we're sending you to school? So you end up like me? No way! You are going to college in the city and getting a proper job!"



Gagan wanted to go to the high pastures, where Papa said the goats love the grass peeking through the snow.



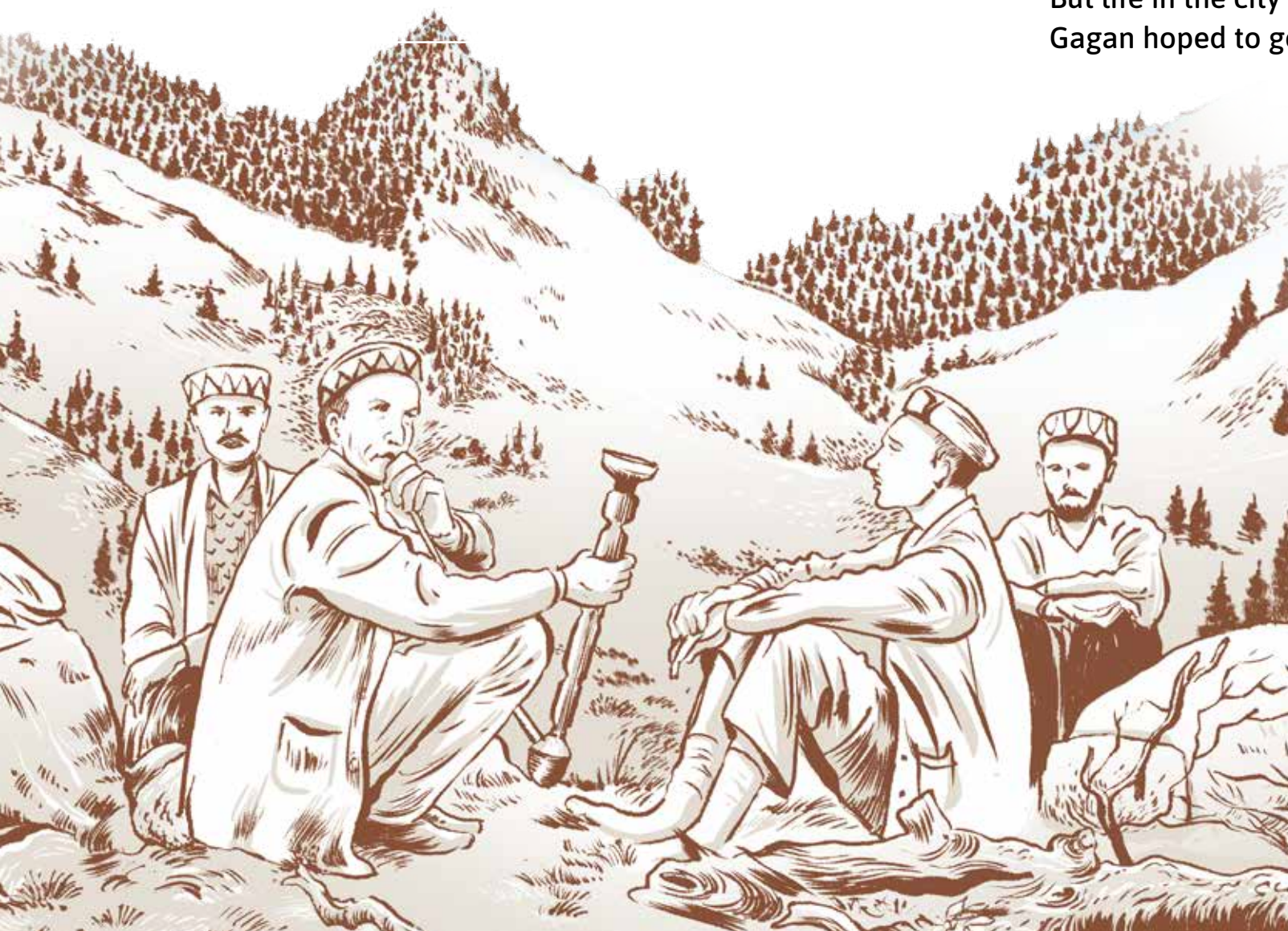
After a while, Gagan thought maybe Papa was right...

..he'd heard him talk about it with others. Everyone was sending their kids to school—no one wanted them to herd anymore.

He thought to himself "papa knows so much about the routes and caring for animals. How will I learn if I don't go with him?"



But life in the city isn't easy, especially for Gaddis. Gagan hoped to get a good job after studying



At times, Gagan daydreams about joining his father.

He thinks "I sometimes wish I could go with my father, wear my 'chola, topa and dora' – and travel to those alpine pastures with no roof above my head.."

Nomadic Notes// A Pastoral Crossword

Crossword by Dharini Padh

1. I wear my wool, snug and warm,
With a happy bleat, I roam the farm!
2. It blankets the ground in soft, vibrant green,
For grazing animals, it's the finest cuisine!
3. In the mud I roll, with a snort and a wiggle,
Who am I, with a tail that loves to wriggle?
4. I have a hump on my back and a long neck
And along the desert dunes, you'll see me trek
5. I waddle and quack as I paddle along,
With my colorful flock, we sing a song!
6. From milk of cows and goats, I'm crafted with care,
Melt on your pizza, a delight to share!
7. With crops in neat rows and animals penned at night,
This land is where harvests grow strong and bright.
8. From animals' backs, I'm sheared with care,
Soft and warm, something that you wear
9. I guide the flock with a staff in hand,
Tending to my animals across this vast land.
10. With a strong build and coat of gray,
'Hee-haw' is the sound of my bray !

The crossword puzzle grid consists of the following numbered starting points:

- 1: 5-letter word starting at row 2, column 4.
- 2: 10-letter word starting at row 2, column 1.
- 3: 5-letter word starting at row 6, column 1.
- 4: 4-letter word starting at row 8, column 5.
- 5: 4-letter word starting at row 7, column 6.
- 6: 5-letter word starting at row 3, column 1.
- 7: 10-letter word starting at row 7, column 1.
- 8: 4-letter word starting at row 5, column 8.
- 9: 4-letter word starting at row 2, column 9.
- 10: 7-letter word starting at row 7, column 8.

1. Sheep
2. Grass
3. Pig
4. Camel
5. Duck
6. Cheese
7. Farmland
8. Wool
9. Shepherd
10. Donkey